Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How is it that the Government did not sell the balance quantity of timber for so long a period ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—The timber was poor in quality. This contract was started as a sort of experiment and owing to the poor quality of the timber they could not sell the whole quantity at the expected rate.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—If this timber is sold will the Government realise the whole amount ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—It all depends upon the sale.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—What is the rate of collection charges ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—It is about 60 per cent of the value to be realised.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—There is no fixed rate ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—No.

Construction of bunds on sides of Karuvannur river.

304. Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) is it true that the Government have decided to construct bunds on either side of the Karuvannur river down to Chirakkal ;

(2) do the Government consider that they will succeed in restraining the flood in this manner without providing outlets for the flood water ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Have not the Government passed final orders on the scheme submitted by the Irrigation expert, Mr. Swaminatha Ayyar?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes ; but then the Government had, in view of the discussions here, promised that it would be forwarded to the permanent Chief Engineer for another report. That report has been submitted and it is also under the consideration of the Government.

Dr. A. R Menon.—Was there not flood this year ? Is there not a channel already dug up?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Has not the Government passed final orders about this scheme?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—They passed orders on that scheme. But they thought of reinvestigating this question and they have forwarded that to me for reinvestigation.

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I have submitted my report and that report is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How many times were final orders passed regarding this ?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Did the department construct a canal there two years ago ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Did the Chief Engineer visit the locality during winter, this year ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Did you find any flood there as it used to be ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There was flood.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It used to be flooded every year before this canal was dug, is it not ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—There was some difference.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Was there a material difference ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I am satisfied that there is material difference.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The proposal of the Chief Engineer was to construct a canal 40 feet wide and the present canal is only 18 feet. Is it not ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon,—Yes.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Government have already assured this House that that scheme will not be carried out without consulting the permanent Chief Engineer and calling for a report.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—A canal of 18 feet in width gave great relief to the flooded area this year and the proposal was for a canal from between 30 to 40 feet in width. Are the Government still contemplating to carry out the proposal of—I want to be particular about the appellation—Dewan Bahadur Swaminatha Ayyar ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Government called for a report from our Chief Engineer and the matter is pending with the Government. He has already submitted his report and orders will be passed soon.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What was the report, please ? What is the conclusion arrived at ?

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Does this report agree with the report of Mr. Swaminatha Ayyar?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The report has been placed on the table of the House.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—When was it placed on the table ?

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Mr. C. J. Mathew.—This morning. I believe Mr. Eachara Menon has got it with him.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will you kindly give us the conclusion arrived at ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The conclusion arrived at was that a wider canal would be more beneficial to relieve the locality of floods and generally supporting what I have originally reported on that subject.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—What about Karalam, Porathusseri and other villages ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I had taken care that question by suggesting the construction of an additional canal and also by widening the Chirakkal and Pazhul Thode.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Are the Government still considering this question, whether a bund should be put up ? Are you still in the region of consideration ? Have you come to any conclusion ? Are you ever likely to come to any conclusion ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The report has been received only two weeks back.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—I suppose there is no idea of calling for another report.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Have the Government any idea to bring any other expert to investigate this matter ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No idea.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to say why they are still considering this question ? They are going to spend 3 or 4 lakhs of rupees. Is it because you want to fulfil certain conditions ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I received the report only two weeks back. No conclusion is arrived at.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What conclusion can you possibly arrive at when you have already come to a conclusion ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—How can I answer that ? The Government is studying the report. There was a report from the Madras Chief Engineer and a report from our Chief Engineer. We are studying the files.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—He gave a canal and showed you that the floods would be relieved.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Will the Government reconsider their position in the light of the suggestions made by our Chief Engineer ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We cannot anticipate the conclusions. We are only studying it.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—By whom ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—By the Government.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I do not think so. Is there anybody competent among you, except the Chief Engineer, to study the report which is of a technical nature ? Has any one sufficient knowledge of Engineering to sit in judgment on that report ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government have been passing orders even on technical matters. That is the practice not only in this State but in all civilized countries.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Who is your technical adviser ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That will depend upon the question that will arise. We do not want to go in for any expert at all in this matter. We will go in for that particular expert when that is required.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will the Government reconsider their decision after a careful study ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We cannot jump to conclusions. One should study the reports first.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Did not the Government jump to the conclusion that the proposal submitted by our Chief Engineer was not a proper one ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The first report was modified by the Madras Chief Engineer and further remarks of our Chief Engineer were called for. We had not time to go through these reports.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—First the State Engineer's report, then the report of the Madras Chief Engineer, then again the report of our Chief Engineer and again the Madras Chief Engineer's report should be called upon to consider this report?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Have they studied the original report of the Chief Engineer ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Have they studied the report of the Madras expert ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes, detailed orders were passed.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Then what more have you to study ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We have to get the remarks of the permanent Chief Engineer who was absent then.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Have the Government got his remarks now ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes, they have.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Who is the particular officer entrusted with the study of the file ?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Myself will do the main part of the work and the clerks will assist me.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Have the Government provided any fund to work on the scheme this year?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—In view of the urgency of the matter, do not the Government think that money should be provided for this?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—As soon as orders are passed we will find out funds. There is no difficulty about funds.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Had it not been for the existence of the Muriad canal, would not the Karuvannur banks be flooded this year?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Nobody can say that with certainty.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What was the level of the flood water in the river?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—14 feet 10 inches.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What is the height of the bund?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—If the water rises above 15 feet 6" the bund will breach.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What was the quantity of water that is taken through the Muriyad canal? Had the canal not existed, would not the bunds have breached this year?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I can say from an engineering point of view that it would not have breached if the canal had not existed.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is it a fact that there were mistakes in the calculation of the Madras Chief Engineer?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is not proper for me to answer that question. I have submitted a report and I have dealt with all the points connected with this in that report.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to place a copy of the report of our Chief Engineer on the table?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It has been placed.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—It was never placed on the table. It was placed in the hands of a member. There is a report submitted by our Chief Engineer. The other report was published in the Gazette and I have got a copy of it. Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of the report submitted by our Chief Engineer?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think there will be any objection.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—But will they be able to do it now ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I am not the Government. Naturally I have to take orders.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—On a point of order, Sir, every member who stands there and answers questions, answers in the name of the Government. Therefore there is no use saying, 'I am not the Government'. You are the Government when you are answering a question here. Government said 'yes' and we stick to that statement.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—In any case will the Government be pleased to expedite action on this matter, so that there may not be haroc next year ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—While putting up the bunds will it increase the flood level of the Manali and Kurumali rivers ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes. The Madras Chief Engineer's report also admits that.

Military and Police trespassing into compounds—allegations regarding.

305. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether there were any untoward incidents on the way when the Triprayar Pooram was returning to Triprayar from Arattupuzha after the Arattupuzha Pooram in 1108;

(b) whether complaints were made by Ezhuvas that the Military and the Police trespassed into the compounds on the wayside, demolished fencings and ill-treated Ezhuvas standing by;

(c) whether Messrs. V. K. Krishnankutti, B. A., B. L., and K. S. Sankaran, met the Commissioner of Police and complained to him of incidents as in (b) having taken place; if so, what action has been taken by the Commissioner in the matter?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. The gentlemen had no direct knowledge about the incident. They were therefore directed to meet the D. S. P. who was already enquiring into the matter and adduce all avail-

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